

From: [Anna Sichmeller](#)
To: [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)
Subject: Thank you for supporting birth control access for all women
Date: Thursday, August 04, 2011 2:37:50 PM

Dear Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health & Human Services,

I commend the Department of Health & Human Services' landmark decision requiring health insurers to cover the full cost of contraception, with no co-pay, beginning in August 2012.

This policy places a much-needed importance on women's health that is too-often not a priority in health care policy. Birth control is a critical part of preventive care, and making contraception available to all women, regardless of their insurance or ability to pay for it, will significantly reduce long-term health care costs associated with unplanned pregnancies.

I am a registered nurse who specializes in the care of high risk, critically ill newborns, and this policy makes sense for both women's and infants' health. Thank you for prioritizing women's basic health care needs.

Sincerely,

Anna Sichmeller

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